



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

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SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

January 26, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents, Public School Academy and Non-Public School/Public School Administrators

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D. *Sally*
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Taiwan – Chinese Language Teacher Program

In March 2006 the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Education (MOE) in Taiwan creating a collaborative agreement through which both Michigan and Taiwan Schools benefit from a cultural and educational exchange.

Michigan is currently recruiting experienced and/or newly certified Michigan elementary teachers to have the opportunity to study and teach in Taiwanese schools for a full academic year. These teachers, upon their return to Michigan elementary schools, will bring to their Michigan classrooms unique cultural awareness and knowledge. Applications must be received by April 6, 2012. The application and additional information can be found at: www.michigan.gov/teacherexchange.

In addition, schools have the opportunity to recruit teachers from Taiwan to teach Chinese to Michigan students. With Michigan's focus on world language graduation requirements, internationalizing education and the global economy, this opportunity could be invaluable. Through the "Visiting Chinese Teachers from Taiwan Program," the MOE invites superintendents (or principals) who plan to recruit a Chinese teacher from Taiwan to visit K-12 schools throughout the country. The MOE covers expenses for roundtrip airfare and one week's accommodation. The tentative dates for this trip are April 7-16, 2012.

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Please note that in order to avoid any confusion regarding authority to hire, principals (or other official designees) will be asked to submit a letter of authorization from their superintendents indicating that the school or district has secured approval to hire a Chinese teacher for 2012-2013 through this program.

Schools interested in recruiting must forward an outline of the school's plan to hire a Chinese language teacher (or teachers) from Taiwan to the MDE. Please include information such as:

- number of superintendents/principals wishing to take part in the trip;
- number of teachers the school is planning to recruit;
- the qualifications schools will be looking for;
- the teaching load teachers will be expected to fulfill (e.g. number of courses, hours per week); and
- the salaries and benefits provided commensurate with qualifications.

More information, as well as forms and a sample letter of authorization, can be found at www.michigan.gov/teacherexchange.

The deadline for administrator application to travel to Taiwan is **February 20, 2012**.

Applications for either program can be submitted to Krista D. Ried, Supervisor, Client Services Unit via email at RiedK@michigan.gov or via fax at (517) 373-0542. For additional information call (517) 373-6791.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance